

I claim:

1. A cooling system for a marine propulsion device, comprising:

5 a conduit having an inlet end and an outlet end, said inlet end being disposed below a surface of a body of water when said marine propulsion device is operated normally on said body of water, said outlet end being disposed proximate a heat producing portion of said marine propulsion device; and

10 a cover which is removably attachable to said marine propulsion device to define a space between said cover and said marine propulsion device, said outlet end of said conduit being configured to direct a stream of water into said space.

2. The cooling system of claim 1, wherein:

said inlet end is disposed below an anti-cavitation plate of said marine propulsion device.

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3. The cooling system of claim 1, wherein:

said conduit extends at least partially through a portion of said marine propulsion device.

20 4. The cooling system of claim 1, wherein:

said marine propulsion device is an out drive of a stern drive system.

5. The cooling system of claim 1, wherein:

25 said heat producing portion comprises bevel gears within said marine propulsion device.

6. The cooling system of claim 5, wherein:

said outlet end is disposed above a housing portion of said marine propulsion device in which said bevel gears are disposed.

5 7. The cooling system of claim 1, wherein:

said inlet end is formed as a portion of a trim setting device.

8 The cooling system of claim 1, wherein:

10 said inlet end comprises a water scoop disposed below an anti-cavitation plate of said marine propulsion device.

9. The cooling system of claim 1, wherein:

15 said cover is shaped to define a return passage between said cover and said marine propulsion device, said return passage being shaped to permit water to flow from said space back to said body of water.

10. The cooling system of claim 1, wherein:

said cover is attached to said marine propulsion device at a location above a top portion of a vertical drive shaft.

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11. The cooling system of claim 10, wherein:

an axis of rotation of said vertical drive shaft intersects said cover.

12. The cooling system of claim 1, wherein:

25 said inlet end is disposed above a propeller of said marine propulsion device.

13. The cooling system of claim 1, wherein:

a stream of said water is directed from said outlet end in a forward direction onto a top surface of said marine propulsion device.

5 14. A cooling system for a marine propulsion device, comprising:

a conduit having an inlet end disposed below an anti-cavitation plate of said marine propulsion device and an outlet end, said inlet end being disposed below a surface of a body of water when said marine propulsion device is operated normally on said body of water, said outlet end being disposed proximate a heat producing portion of said marine propulsion device, said outlet end being disposed above a housing portion of said marine propulsion device; and

a cover which is removably attachable to said marine propulsion device to define a space between said cover and said marine propulsion device, said outlet end of said conduit being configured to direct a stream of water into said space.

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15. The cooling system of claim 14, wherein:

said conduit extends at least partially through a portion of said marine propulsion device.

20 16. The cooling system of claim 15, wherein:

said heat producing portion comprises bevel gears within said marine propulsion device, said bevel gears being contained within said housing portion of said marine propulsion device.

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17. The cooling system of claim 16, wherein:

said inlet end comprises a water scoop disposed below said anti-cavitation plate and above a propeller of said marine propulsion device and formed as a portion of a trim setting device.

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18. The cooling system of claim 17, wherein:

said cover is shaped to define a return passage between said cover and said marine propulsion device, said return passage being shaped to permit water to flow from said space back to said body of water, said stream of said water being
10 directed from said outlet end in a forward direction onto a top surface of said marine propulsion device.

19. A cooling system for a marine propulsion device, comprising:

a conduit having an inlet end disposed below an anti-cavitation plate of said
15 marine propulsion device and an outlet end, said inlet end being disposed below a surface of a body of water when said marine propulsion device is operated normally on said body of water, said outlet end being disposed proximate a heat producing portion of said marine propulsion device, said outlet end being disposed above a housing portion of said marine propulsion device; and

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a cover which is removably attachable to said marine propulsion device to define a space between said cover and said marine propulsion device, said outlet end of said conduit being configured to direct a stream of water into said space, said cover being shaped to define a return passage between said cover and said marine propulsion device, said return passage being shaped to permit water to flow
25 from said space back to said body of water, said stream of said water being directed from said outlet end in a forward direction onto a top surface of said marine propulsion device, said inlet end comprising a water scoop disposed below

said anti-cavitation plate and above a propeller of said marine propulsion device and formed as a portion of a trim setting device.

20. The cooling system of claim 19, wherein:

5 said conduit extends at least partially through a portion of said marine propulsion device, said heat producing portion comprising bevel gears within said marine propulsion device, said bevel gears being contained within said housing portion of said marine propulsion device.

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